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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Review of the implementation of the Convention, including support to regional action programmes

Note by the secretariat

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its second session, the Conference on the Parties (COP) had before it document ICCD/COP(2)/5, which reported on activities relating to implementation of the Convention which the secretariat had supported or in which the secretariat had participated during the period from August 1997 to July 1998. This present note provides information on measures undertaken by the secretariat for the period from September 1998 to September 1999 to ensure continued support to the affected Parties. Such measures took the form of financial and technical assistance which was mostly secured through contributions to the Trust Fund established under General Assembly resolution 47/188. Programmes developed by the Parties at the national, subregional and regional levels have, in many cases, reached the stage of formulation where financing resources must be brought in through the conclusion of partnership arrangements.

2. Progress in this initial phase of the implementation process has been slower than some might have expected, due to the complexity of managing a cross-sectoral and participatory programming exercise. At the national level, focal points have been institutionalized and they spearhead further arrangements to improve awareness and coordination of the implementation of the Convention process, which is yet to receive the full attention of some important ministries. National focal points backed by national coordinating committees also strive in many cases to encourage and broaden the involvement of the civil society. Focal points are further facing the need to review the linkages with other strategic programming frameworks for sustainable development and to mobilize a critical level of resources. National forums were held in a number of countries with the assistance of the United Nations system and a round table was held in Mali in March 1999. It is important to plan a forthcoming cycle of round tables to address the financial needs of national action programmes (NAPs) in other countries.

3. The bulk of activities clearly took place at the national level and some countries reported progress in setting up an enabling framework for the UNCCD including scientific and technological support; legislative measures; preferential policies on tax systems, land use and ownership; or support to decentralized management and privatization. At the international level (subregional, regional and interregional), Parties seek economies of scale by building interregional cooperation platforms or designing thematic programme networks but the participation of interested scientific institutions from developed country Parties and financial support are yet to fully materialize.

4. The information shared by the secretariat in this note represents only a partial account of the implementation process. It is meant to complete the assessment made by the Parties, concerned international organizations and the non-governmental community. It focuses on specific activities in which the secretariat made a contribution either by participation or through financial support. It does not give a comprehensive picture of the status of implementation of the Convention

or overall trends in implementation. On the whole, the experience gained during the interim period and spelled out in paragraph 4 of document ICCD/COP(2)/5 is being confirmed: affected country Parties will need to streamline the multiple strategic planning frameworks for the management of natural resources; they will invite a more articulate response, at country level, from multilateral institutions and donor agencies and seek partnership arrangements to secure the necessary financial support; they will continue to explore ways and means to deliver resources more directly to the local level, using as far as possible the UNCCD as a synergistic framework for bringing the implementation process of the other sustainable development conventions (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)) to the grassroots level.

II. MEASURES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION IN AFRICA

5. All African countries have now ratified the Convention, which definitely demonstrates the commitment of Africa to the UNCCD process. The national reports which have to be submitted to COP 3 by African country Parties give a precise idea of the measures which have been taken for the implementation of the Convention (see ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.2).

6. At the national level, all African countries are engaged in the process of preparing and implementing national action programmes, being at various stages of activities: information and awareness-raising, country-wide consultative process, national forum, and adoption and implementation of the programme.

7. In the field of information and awareness-raising, various strategies have been applied together to inform and sensitize stakeholders. National awareness-raising seminars have been organized in about 40 countries, followed by awareness campaigns, consultative workshops and seminars at various levels, and educational material has been introduced. UNCCD material has been translated into local languages, and posters, drama and songs for community level actors have been developed.

8. Most countries recognize that they will need continued awareness, sensitization and education to get their whole population to participate effectively in the UNCCD process. Women's participation in the process is still below the expected levels in most of the countries. The importance of the participation of women's groups in the UNCCD process cannot be overemphasised. The secretariat is continuing to assist in strengthening the capacities of women's community groups.

9. The non-governmental organizations are also developing their collaboration with governments in support of the national action programmes.

10. With respect to the participatory and consultative mechanisms intended to lead to the elaboration of national action programmes, nearly all African countries have set up institutional coordinating bodies with national steering committees, focal point secretariats and technical subcommittees, all these organs having

multidisciplinary and multisectoral representation from government department institutions of higher learning and research, non-governmental organizations a community-based organizations, the private sector and the donor community.

11. Twenty countries have to date organized a national forum to validate and ado the national action programme that they had elaborated on the basis of t participatory and consultative approaches emphasized in the Convention, and fo countries are planning to hold the first national forum in the last quarter of 199

12. A few countries organized an environment financing sectoral round table, a presented priority elements of the national action programme, mostly integrated the national environmental action plan (NEAP), for financing to the donor communi and hereby launched the implementation phase. In this context, it is notewort that several countries have combined the processes of NEAPs and NAPs to formula a single programme. Those countries which had already elaborated a NEAP relat the NAP closely to it.

13. Many countries are developing mechanisms to bring synergy into t coordination of the implementation of the three conventions on biological diversi (CBD), climate change (UNFCCC) and desertification (UNCCD), especially at distri and community level (see document ICCD/COP(3)/9).

14. In eastern and southern Africa, the Intergovernmental Authority on Developme (IGAD) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have been playing major role in helping their respective member countries to elaborate and coordina their national action programmes, and to identify priority areas for implementatio Because of the difficulties of involving external partners in a structured respon to the needs emerging from the NAP process, several countries are considering t designation of selected countries to serve as *chef de file* to coordinate partnersh arrangements and involvement of extended partners in the NAP process.

15. At the subregional level, various consultations took place to draw up furth subregional action programmes.

16. In West Africa, the two relevant subregional intergovernmental organizatio the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and t Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have been designated to act focal points in the preparation and implementation of the subregional acti programme to combat desertification in West Africa. Four of the five steps referr to in document ICCD/COP(2)/5 have now been taken: the last one took place in N 1999, when the Council of Ministers in charge of Agriculture and Environment adopt the programme. The remaining final step of having it adopted by the Conference ECOWAS Heads of State, including Chad, is imminent. In the meantime, strategi to launch the implementation phase are being devised.

17. In North Africa, the first draft of the subregional action programme was reviewed in July 1999. Together with its members, the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) is planning to organize in Algiers, in September 1999, a subregional forum to consider and adopt the programme.

18. As part of the implementation of the Convention at subregional level, several Maghreb and Sahel countries have promoted pilot projects located in border areas, with a view to managing shared natural resources in a more effective manner. Potential sites and a methodology to design such projects had been identified at a meeting in August 1996 in Ouagadougou, referred to in document ICCD/COP(2)/7. To date, six transboundary pilot projects have been formulated with the support of the secretariat and other interested partners in the following border areas: Senegal/Mauritania, Mali/Mauritania, Mali/Algeria, Mali/Burkina Faso, Algeria/Tunisia, Niger/Burkina Faso. Various partners at regional and international level have shown interest in supporting the implementation of these projects.

19. SADC has continued to draw up specific projects in the subregional action programme priority areas. For example, a project on capacity-building at community level on land degradation and desertification control has been formulated and submitted to some cooperation partners for funding. SADC is still searching for support to implement the early-warning programme and the revised Kalahari-Namib action plan. In November 1998, a subregional meeting was convened to consider and approve a one-year programme for the multidisciplinary science and technology consultative committee to provide a scientific basis for implementing the Convention in southern Africa.

20. In East Africa, IGAD has undertaken three major activities related to the development of priority projects in the fields of environment and food security, renewable energy sources and water resources management. These are part of the nine priority areas agreed upon by IGAD member states under the IGAD subregional action programme.

21. At the regional level, pursuant to the Pan-African Conference on the Implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification and Follow-up in Africa of the Results of UNCED, held in March 1997, the secretariat, in cooperation with African and international institutions and cooperation partners for development, is continuing to assist the African specialized institutions in formulating the regional action programme.

22. The Pan-African Conference recommended that the regional action programme be drawn up on the basis of seven thematic workshops, each of which would concentrate on a theme considered to be of major concern to the region. The most important objective of these workshops is the promotion of efficient networks in all priority areas.

23. At this stage, six of these workshops have already taken place. The four he
before COP 2, referred to in document ICCD/COP(2)/5, dealt with (a) ecologic
monitoring, natural resources mapping, remote sensing and early-warning system
(b) agroforestry and soil conservation; (c) rational use of rangelands a
development of fodder crops; and (d) promotion of new and renewable energy sourc
and technologies. The fifth and sixth workshops dealt with integrated managemen
of international river, lake and hydrogeological basins in Africa, and wi
sustainable agricultural farming systems. The seventh and final workshop on t
promotion of an enabling environment and capacity-building, will be held prior
COP 3.

24. A first review of these workshops was carried out at the African region
meeting which took place in November 1998 in Tunis. A validation forum on t
outcome of all seven workshops will be held before COP 3 at the African Region
Conference which is planned to take place in Nairobi in September 1999.

25. The secretariat was requested by the African specialized institutions
facilitate the identification of institutional focal points for the various networ
envisaged for the implementation of the action programme. Focal institutions wi
be designated by the African Regional Conference to be held in September 1999
Nairobi. The functioning of the networks and the role of the institutional foc
points were defined during the thematic workshops.

26. Finally, it needs to be recalled that Africa has also initiated the proce
of establishing a regional coordination unit, whose main purpose is to support t
regional action programme in facilitating the implementation of the Convention
regional level and to ensure communication and collaboration among the networ
emerging from the seven thematic workshops. The institutional arrangement w
concluded in May 1999 and a memorandum of understanding has been signed between t
housing institution, the African Development Bank (ADB) and the secretariat. T
unit will be operational before COP 3.

III. MEASURES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION IN ASIA

27. At the national level, all countries have designated national focal poin
and are at various stages of development or implementation of their national acti
programmes. Many are reviewing and updating existing planning instruments in t
light of the Convention. A national workshop on the implementation of the UNC
in Pakistan was held in Islamabad, 22-23 May 1999. In Yemen, a national worksh
to review the national action plan to combat desertification and land resour
degradation was held from 30 May to 2 June 1999 and regional community consultatio
took place from 6 to 11 June 1999. National awareness seminars on combati
desertification will be held in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, in September 1999. In t
Lao People's Democratic Republic, the national workshop on UNCCD implementation
planned in Vientiane in September 1999. These events reflect the strong intere
of Asian Parties under various eco-climatic conditions in using the UNCCD as t
frame of reference to combat land degradation, desertification and drought.

28. The secretariat continued its institutional support to Kyrgyzstan aimed at strengthening national capacities in the preparation of the national action programme to combat desertification. It is initiating similar institutional support to four other countries of Central Asia. These projects aim at facilitating collaboration between governmental and non-governmental actors in the unfolding of the NAP process.

29. At the subregional level, the following activities have taken place:

(a) The international expert group meeting held in Muscat, 14-16 September 1998, agreed to further elaborate the draft programme proposals that had been prepared by the Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD), the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE). Currently the Global Mechanism, in cooperation with the UNCCD secretariat, is further reviewing this proposal for a subregional action programme (SRAP) for Western Asia, with a view to arriving at an international consensus on funding. After ongoing consultations with the countries and institutions concerned, a subregional workshop is planned to conclude partnership arrangements for the support of the finalized SRAP;

(b) In 1998, the secretariat joined the Office to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNSO) in organizing a workshop on capacity-building in Kazakhstan for the national coordinating bodies from countries of Central Asia (financed by UNSO). Agreement was reached on the role of facilitator of the resident coordinator of the United Nations system. As a follow-up to this workshop, the secretariat in cooperation with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is preparing a project on the establishment of international training courses to combat desertification for countries of Central Asia;

(c) The secretariat also contributed to the work of a seminar on the UNCCD and the CBD in Central Asia, which was held in Turkmenistan. Further to the request of participants, the secretariat is initiating with interested partners the preparation of a subregional action programme whose purpose is to harmonize initiatives to combat desertification in the Aral Sea basin;

(d) The Workshop on Combating Desertification in North-East Asia was held in Seoul on 19 July 1999 in collaboration with UNDP and the North-East Asia Forest Forum to discuss desertification issues in North-East Asia, which includes China, Mongolia and the Korean peninsula. At the workshop, subregional impacts of desertification were examined and possible collaboration in the subregion was discussed;

(e) The island States of South-East Asia have expressed a strong interest in joining efforts to address issues related to land use, drought and water scarcity under the UNCCD and the secretariat is consulting with other interested institutions on the formulation of a proposal to meet their concerns.

30. The secretariat is actively supporting non-governmental organizations fr Central Asia at the national level. The secretariat provided institutional suppo to such organizations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenista Uzbekistan and Mongolia. This institutional support enables them to steadily bui the foundation for a broader awareness of the UNCCD process, and encourage networking and the exchange of information amongst all stakeholders. It assis non-governmental organizations in targeting their input into the NAP process, a at the same time encourages the use of successful methods in combating la degradation.

31. At the regional level, Asian countries have made substantial progress:

(a) The International Expert Group Meeting on the Preparation of t Regional Action Programme for Asia was held in Bangkok, Thailand, 10-13 Novembe 1998, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission f Asia and the Pacific. At the meeting, the framework, time-frame and institution arrangement concerning the regional action programme for Asia, composed of s thematic programme networks (TPNs), were discussed, particularly the Asian region networks on desertification monitoring and assessment (TPN1), agroforestry and so conservation (TPN2), and rangeland management and sand dune fixation (TPN3). was proposed to hold launching meetings of TPNs 1-3 in the second half of 1999. was also agreed to set up a regional back-up facility similar to the region coordination units for the other regions;

(b) The Launching Meeting of TPN1 took place in Beijing, China, 26-27 Jul 1999, and agreed on institutional and programme arrangements for the network. T launching meetings of TPNs 2 and 3 are to take place in India and the Islam Republic of Iran in September and October 1999, respectively, subject to furth consultations and timely availability of funds;

(c) In order to review progress at both national and regional levels, second Asian meeting of UNCCD focal points was held in Beijing, China, 24-25 Jul 1999. It endorsed decisions on the development and implementation of TPNs a considered the preparation of national reports by Asian countries for review at C 4 and other issues on the agenda of COP 3.

32. At the interregional level, the following must be reported:

(a) While preparation of the Interregional Action Programme to Comba Desertification in Countries of Central Asia, Transcaucasus and Eastern Europe under way as was requested in 1997 by the Tashkent Interregional Conference, i further development is being delayed due to the non-participation in the Conventio of some countries of eastern Europe;

(b) The Asia-Africa Technical Workshop on Early Warning Systems was he in Beijing, 22-23 July 1999. The workshop was attended by experts from the t regions to share experience in early-warning systems related to desertificatio

control and drought mitigation, and to discuss possible collaboration between the two regions in this area.

IV. MEASURES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

33. At the national level, all countries of the region have now designated a national focal point. Some countries have gone further and have set up national or interdisciplinary committees to deal with the problems of land degradation and drought (e.g. Barbados and Jamaica). Others are making efforts to have issues of land degradation and the role of the UNCCD in dealing with these problems added to the curriculum of formal education on the environment. The development of national action plans and programmes of awareness of land degradation issues continues, with the hosting of national awareness workshops and seminars.

34. During the period under review, five more countries began work on the creation of their national action programmes. These are Barbados, Costa Rica, Dominica, Haiti and Jamaica. In Haiti (one of the more seriously affected countries of the region), a small coordinating unit was set up with help from the secretariat. This unit has the main objective of formulating a national action programme for that country. Other countries of the region continue to work on the implementation of their national action programme. This process is generally gaining momentum throughout the region.

35. In Argentina, the secretariat assisted the non-governmental organization "Los Algarrobos" in hosting a workshop on the UNCCD, desertification, poverty and gender.

36. At the subregional level, support was provided for the continuation of the Gran Chaco Americano project between Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay. Special attention is now being paid to providing greater support to the countries of Central America, in particular those struck by hurricane Mitch. Discussions are taking place with the GEF on the development and implementation of projects for the Eastern Caribbean subregion and for Hispaniola.

37. At the regional level, the regional coordinating unit has been set up in Mexico at the UNEP regional office. The countries of the region have been supported actively in the creation of the Regional Information Network on Desertification and Drought (DESELAC), including:

- The development of all basic concepts for a web page;
- The establishment of the page;
- The creation of the CD-LAC FORUM. This is the forerunner of DESELAC and it already connects more than 60 per cent of the countries of the region.

38. A monthly news bulletin is produced and shared with all countries which are part of the CD-LAC FORUM. Every effort is being made to have the remaining countries connected to the system. A series of electronic forums and workshops have been organized through the FORUM and there are plans to have more activities of this nature.

39. The second technical workshop and the fifth regional meeting were held in Lima, Peru from 9 to 12 August 1999. At this meeting, member States reviewed the implementation of the regional action programme and discussed issues on the agenda of COP 3, including the question of the preparation of national reports for COP 4.

40. The regional meeting reviewed also the implementation process of the Convention at all levels through an exchange of experience between Parties which are at different stages of this process. The meeting also approved a scale of contributions from countries to assist in meeting the cost of operating the regional coordinating unit. It should be noted that some countries of the region are already making financial contributions to the functioning of this unit.

41. At the interregional level, the first Latin America and Caribbean Forum on Desertification took place in Recife, Brazil, in October 1998. It identified the mechanism and priority areas for promoting interregional cooperation in the implementation of the UNCCD.

V. MEASURES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION IN THE NORTHERN MEDITERRANEAN AND OTHER EUROPEAN REGIONS

42. At the national level, affected country Parties of the Northern Mediterranean and other European regions are in the process of drawing up their national action programmes (Greece, Italy, Malta, the Republic of Moldova, Portugal, Roumania, Turkey and Spain). Portugal officially approved and presented its NAP at the regional meeting in Lisbon, on 17 June 1999. Spain organized a technical day on the technologies available for the control of desertification on 17 June 1999. A draft of the Spanish NAP is expected to be ready by October 1999. Italy is establishing a clearing house for desertification and a draft of the Italian NAP is expected to be presented by October 1999. The draft of the Turkish NAP was to be presented in July 1999. Malta is pursuing national awareness raising on land degradation issues. Also at national level, the momentum for acceding to the Convention is building up in central and eastern Europe as countries realize the potential of the Convention to address a wide range of issues related to land degradation and drought.

43. At the regional level, Italy was designated during COP 2 in Dakar to chair the annex IV group. France is now an observer of the group. Portugal, in cooperation with the Chairperson of the annex IV group, organized a ministerial meeting of the annex IV countries in Lisbon, Portugal, on 17 June 1999. A focal point meeting was also organized by the Italian Government on 18 June 1999. The purpose was to present the progress of its members on the implementation of the

UNCCD at national level, to discuss the establishment of a regional working group to organize contacts with the European Union to prepare COP 3 and COP 4, and to promote an electronic exchange of information between the members. The main decision was the creation of a working group on national and regional action programmes. It was also agreed to have a meeting in September 1999 in Rome to work on the definition of the Mediterranean Regional Action Programme and to discuss further the results and the European Union approach in October/November 1999 in Brussels. The holding of further meetings before COP 3 is under consideration.

44. Informal consultations chaired by Ambassador Bo Kjellen were held in New York on 19 April 1999, on the draft text of an additional regional implementation annex for countries of central and eastern Europe. The text prepared by Ambassador Kjellen received broad agreement from the participants. Armenia as a Party to the Convention, submitted the text to the secretariat for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its third session.

45. On the occasion of the convening of the World Forum of Mayors on Cities and Desertification (Bonn, Germany, 11-12 June 1999), Italy, on behalf of the annex IV countries, sent a special message stressing that concrete action from decentralized authorities could help to fight desertification as an important component of participatory policies for sustainable development. It also urged city authorities to play an active role in this. Furthermore, the annex countries stressed that there was a need for renewed cooperation to address issues such as debt and migrations.

Annex

MAJOR NATIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL
MEETINGS WITH SECRETARIAT INVOLVEMENT,
AUTUMN 1998 - AUTUMN 1999

Global and interregional

1998		
14-16 October	Recife	First Africa-Latin America and the Caribb Forum on Combating Desertification
1999		
11-12 June	Bonn	World Forum of Mayors on Cities a Desertification
22-23 July	Beijing	Asia-Africa Technical Workshop on Ea Warning Systems

Africa

1998		
15-16 September	Mukono/Uganda	Workshop on gender considerations in national action programme in Uganda
29 September-2 October	Abidjan	Regional workshop on integrated management international river, lake and hydrogeologi basins in Africa
12 October	Kampala	Awareness-raising workshop for Uganda memb of parliament on the NAP and UNCCD process Uganda
21-23 October	Nairobi	National forum
26-29 October	Tunis	Regional workshop on the promotion of new renewable energy sources and technologies
2-5 November	Tunis	Regional forum preparatory to COP 2
17-19 November	Addis Ababa	First national forum
18-20 November	Mukono/Uganda	First national forum

22-24 December	Cotonou	National seminar to validate the draft of the national action programme
1999		
15-16 March	Pretoria	SADC briefing session on the elaboration of national reports on UNCCD implementation
18-19 March	Nairobi	IGAD briefing session on the elaboration of national reports on UNCCD implementation
18-19 March	Rabat	AMU briefing session on the elaboration of national reports on UNCCD implementation
22-23 March	Ouagadougou	CILSS/ECOWAS briefing session on the elaboration of national reports on UNCCD implementation
23-26 March	Sadore, Niamey	Regional workshop on the promotion of sustainable agricultural farming systems
20-25 May	Lome	Experts and ministers meeting on the validation of the West African subregional action programme
27-29 May	Bamako	National Environmental Action Plan Financing Sectoral Round Table
7-9 June	Lome	National Workshop to Validate the National Environmental Action Plan
6-8 July	Rabat	AMU expert meeting on the preparation of the subregional action programme for North Africa
6-9 July	Ouagadougou	Second National Forum for the Validation of the National Action Programme
15-16 July	Kinshasa	Awareness-raising seminar
20-23 July	Harare	Regional workshop on the promotion of an enabling environment and capacity-building
3rd week of July	Kano/Nigeria	National workshop on the NAP process
September	Nairobi	African regional forum

Asia

1998

14-16 September	Muscat	International Expert Group Meeting for the Preparation of a Subregional Action Programme on Combating Desertification and Drought in Western Asia
10-13 November	Bangkok	International Expert Group Meeting on the Preparation of the Regional Action Programme for Asia

1999

22-23 May	Islamabad	National workshop on the implementation of the UNCCD in Pakistan
30 May - 2 June	Sana'a	National Workshop to Review the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Land Resource Degradation
6-11 June	Yemen	Community consultations on desertification and land resource degradation
15 July	Colombo	National awareness seminar on combating desertification in Sri Lanka
19 July	Jakarta	National awareness seminar on combating desertification in Indonesia
19 July	Seoul	Combating Desertification in North-East Asia
24-25 July	Beijing	Second Asian meeting of UNCCD national focal points
26-27 July	Beijing	Launching meeting of TPN 1 (Asian regional network on desertification monitoring and assessment)
September	Vientiane	National workshop on the UNCCD implementation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Latin America and the Caribbean

1998

3-5 November	Regional	Hosting of first electronic conference and workshop

1999

28-30 January	San Jose	National awareness seminar
23 April	Mexico City	Establishment of regional coordination unit
31 May-1 June	Bridgetown	National awareness seminar
7-11 June	Roseau	National awareness seminar
1 June	Port-au-Prince	Establishment of coordinating unit
9-12 August	Lima	Fourth regional meeting

Northern Mediterranean and other European regions

1998

2 December	Dakar	Regional meeting of annex IV

1999

7 April	Brussels	Third Meeting of the EC member States expert group
19 May	Tallinn	National awareness day
17 June	Lisbon	Regional ministerial meeting of annex IV
18 June	Lisbon	Focal points meeting of annex IV
July	Ankara	Presentation of the Turkish draft national action programme
September	Rome	Meeting of the working group of annex IV
October	Madrid	Presentation of the Spanish draft national action programme

October	Rome	Presentation of the Italian draft national action programme
October/November	Brussels	Annex IV working meeting